

General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2022

LCO No. 3834



Offered by:

SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **5262**

File No. 5

Cal. No. 64

"AN ACT REVISING CERTAIN ABSENTEE VOTING ELIGIBILITY STATUTES."

- Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following in lieu thereof:
- "Section 1. Section 9-135 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 6 (a) Any elector eligible to vote at a primary or an election and any 7 person eligible to vote at a referendum may vote by absentee ballot if (1) 8 such elector or person is unable to appear at such elector's or person's 9 polling place during the hours of voting for any of the following reasons: 10 [(1)] (A) Such elector's or person's active service with the armed forces 11 of the United States; [(2)] (B) such elector's or person's absence from the 12 town of such elector's or person's voting residence; [during all of the 13 hours of voting; (3) such elector's or person's illness; (4) such elector's or 14 person's] (C) sickness; (D) physical disability; [(5)] (E) the tenets of such elector's or person's religion forbid secular activity on the day of the 15

- primary, election or referendum; [(6)] or (F) the required performance 16 17 of such elector's or person's duties as a primary, election or referendum 18 official, including as a town clerk or registrar of voters or as staff of the 19 clerk or registrar, at a polling place other than such elector's or person's 20 own during all of the hours of voting at such primary, election or 21 referendum, [; or (7) for the state election in 2020, and any election, 22 primary or referendum held on or after June 23, 2021, but prior to 23 November 3, 2021, the sickness of COVID-19. As used in this section, 24 "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the World 25 Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019, and any 26 related mutation thereof recognized by said organization as a 27 communicable respiratory disease] and (2) such elector's or person's 28 signature on the materials used to vote by absentee ballot is able to be 29 verified.
 - (b) No person shall misrepresent the eligibility requirements for voting by absentee ballot prescribed in subsection (a) of this section, to any elector or prospective absentee ballot applicant.
- 33 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 9-261 of the general statutes is 34 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (a) In each primary, election or referendum, when an elector has entered the polling place, the elector shall announce the elector's street address, if any, and the elector's name to the official checker or checkers in a tone sufficiently loud and clear as to enable all the election officials present to hear the same. Each elector who registered to vote by mail for the first time on or after January 1, 2003, and has a "mark" next to the elector's name on the official registry list, as required by section 9-23r, shall present to the official checker or checkers, before the elector votes, either a current and valid photo identification that shows the elector's name and address or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that shows the name and address of the elector. Each other elector shall (1) present to the official checker or checkers the elector's Social Security card or any

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other preprinted form of identification which shows the elector's name and either the elector's address, signature or photograph, or (2) on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State, write the elector's residential address and date of birth, print the elector's name and sign a statement under penalty of false statement that the elector is the elector whose name appears on the official checklist, provided such elector's signature on such form shall be able to be verified. Such form shall clearly state the penalty of false statement. A separate form shall be used for each elector. If the elector presents a preprinted form of identification under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the official checker or checkers shall check the name of such elector on the official checklist, manually on paper or electronically. If the elector completes the form under subdivision (2) of this subsection, the registrar of voters or the assistant registrar of voters, as the case may be, shall examine the information on such form, including such elector's signature, and either instruct the official checker or checkers to check the name of such elector on the official checklist, manually on paper or electronically, or notify the elector that the form is incomplete or inaccurate or that such signature is unable to be verified."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	from passage	9-135
Sec. 2	from passage	9-261(a)

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